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Typed or Printed Name	Donna Macedo		
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	3/12/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT		Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	CLON037CON 3391
Address to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		First Named Inventor	Perry
		Application Number	09/839,696
		Filing Date	April 19, 2001
		Group Art Unit	1653
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
		Title	Novel Method for Purification of Recombinant Proteins

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Sir:

Prior to examination of the application on the merits, please enter the following amendments:

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please add the following new claims:

--24. (New) An immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography complex comprising:

- (a) an aspartate metal chelating ligand; and
- (b) a transition metal ion complexed to said aspartate metal chelating ligand.

25. (New) The immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography complex according to Claim 24, wherein said aspartate ligand is a tetradentate ligand.

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FC:120126. (New) The immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography complex according to Claim 24, wherein said transition metal is complexed to said ligand in octahedral geometry.

27. (New) The immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography complex according to Claim 24, wherein said transition metal ion is selected from the group consisting of Fe²⁺, Co²⁺, Ni²⁺, Cu²⁺ and Zn²⁺.

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36. (New) The method according to Claim 31, wherein said complex offers two available valencies.
- B1 37. (New) The immobilized metal ion affinity chromatography complex according to Claim 36, wherein said two available valencies form strong, reversible complexes with adjacent histidine residues on the surface of said protein. --
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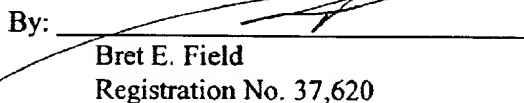
REMARKS UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Newly presented Claims 24-37 find support throughout the specification and originally pending claims. As such, there entry and examination by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CLON37DIV.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 3.12.02

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